

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 11, 18, 19, 21, 22, 42 , 44, 45 and 47 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An information~~ A processing ~~apparatus~~ device for a network comprising:

a communication controller configured to receive a read command from ~~an external device~~ network devices, the read command specifying a memory address in said processing device where data to be read out are stored; and

a memory having a memory area for storing optional device information listing optional devices mountable on said processing device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said processing device, the optional device information including information about a an optional device mountable on said information processing apparatus device but is not mounted on said ~~information processing apparatus device~~, in a memory area, from which ~~the external device can read out~~ said information about a the optional device can be read out by a network device using the read command,

wherein the optional device, that is mountable on said ~~information processing apparatus device~~ but is not mounted on said ~~information processing apparatus device~~, includes an attachable part through which that optional device is attached to said ~~information processing apparatus device~~, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said ~~information processing apparatus device~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a ~~transmitt~~ transmitter configured to transmit information in the memory area in accordance with the read command from the ~~external~~ network device.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said communication controller comprises a communication control bus complying with an IEEE-1394 standard.

4. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the memory area is set in a configuration ROM defined by the IEEE-1394 standard.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein position information unique to an electronic device is written in a node dependent information directory of the configuration ROM.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein the memory area is specified based upon information held in an Instance Directory of the configuration ROM.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said memory stores, in the memory area, information indicative of a an optional device that is mountable on said ~~information~~ processing ~~apparatus~~ device but is not mounted on said ~~information~~ processing

~~apparatus device~~ and ~~[[a]] an optional~~ device that is mountable on said ~~information processing apparatus device~~ and has already been mounted on said ~~information processing apparatus device~~.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An information~~ A processing ~~apparatus device~~ for a network comprising:

a communication controller configured to send a read command to an external network device, the read command specifying a ~~memory address~~ memory area of a memory in a network device where ~~data to be read out are stored~~ optional device information listing optional devices mountable on said processing device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said network device is stored, wherein the optional device information includes information about an optional device mountable on said network device but is not mounted on said network device;

an acquisition unit configured to acquire the information about ~~a~~ an optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on said ~~external~~ network device, from ~~[[a]]~~ the memory area of the ~~external~~ network device, by using the read command; and

a display control unit configured to control a display based upon the information acquired by said acquisition unit,

wherein the optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on said ~~external~~ network device, includes an attachable part through which that optional

device is attached to the ~~external~~ network device, and a function assist part assisting function of the ~~external~~ network device.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said communication control unit comprises a communication control bus complying with an IEEE-1394 standard.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said acquisition unit accesses a Instance Directory stored in a configuration ROM defined by the IEEE-1394 standard to acquire information about ~~[[a]]~~ an optional device ~~on which is mountable on the~~ ~~external~~ network device ~~is mountable~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said acquisition unit acquires information indicative of ~~[[a]]~~ an optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device and ~~a~~ an optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device and has already been mounted on the ~~external~~ network device, and

said display control unit identifiably displays the optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device and the optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device and has already been mounted on the ~~external~~ network device based on the information acquired by said acquisition unit.

12 - 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling ~~an information~~ a processing apparatus ~~device~~ for a network comprising:

a storing step, of storing optional device information listing optional devices mountable on said processing device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said processing device, said optional device information including information about a an optional device, that is mountable on the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~ but is not mounted on the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~, in a memory area that is accessible by ~~an external~~ a network device by using a read command that specifies a memory address where the information about ~~[[a]]~~ an optional device to be read out is stored;

a communication control step, of receiving a read command from the ~~external~~ a network device; and

a transmission step, of transmitting the information about the optional device, that is mountable on the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~ but is not mounted on the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~, held in the memory area, in accordance with the read command from the ~~external~~ network device,

wherein the optional device, that is mountable on the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~ but is not mounted on the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~, includes an attachable part through which the device is attached to the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~, and a function assist part for assisting a function of the ~~information~~ processing apparatus ~~device~~.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling ~~an information~~ a processing apparatus device for a network comprising:

a communication control step, of sending a read command to ~~an external~~ a network device, the read command specifying a memory ~~address~~ area of a memory in the network device where ~~data to be read out are stored~~ optional device information listing optional devices mountable on said processing device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said network device is stored, wherein the optional device information includes information about an optional device mountable on said network device but is not mounted on said network device;

an acquisition step, of acquiring the information about ~~[[a]]~~ an optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device, from a the memory area ~~of the external device~~ by using the read command; and

a display control step, of controlling a display based upon the information acquired in said acquisition step,

wherein the optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device, includes an attachable part through which the optional device is attached to the ~~external~~ network device, and a function assist part for assisting a function of the ~~external~~ network device.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended): A storage medium storing a control program for implementing a method of controlling ~~an information~~ a processing ~~apparatus device~~, the method comprising:

a storage step, of storing optional device information listing optional devices mountable on said processing device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said processing device, the optional device information including information about ~~[[a]]~~ an optional device, that is mountable on the information processing apparatus but is not mounted on the information processing apparatus, in a memory area that is accessible by an external device by using a read command that specifies a memory address where data to be read out is stored;

a communication control step, of receiving a read command from the external device;
and

a transmission step, of transmitting the information about the optional device, that is mountable on the ~~information~~ processing ~~apparatus device~~ but is not mounted on the ~~information~~ processing ~~apparatus device~~, held in the memory area, in accordance with the read command from the external device,

wherein the optional device mountable on the ~~information~~ processing ~~apparatus device~~ includes an attachable part through which the optional device is attached to the ~~information~~ processing ~~apparatus device~~, and a function assist part for assisting a function of the ~~information~~ processing ~~apparatus device~~.

22. (Currently Amended) A storage medium storing a control program for implementing a method of controlling ~~an information~~ a processing apparatus device, said method comprising:

a communication control step, of sending a read command to an external device, the read command specifying a memory address where data to be read out are stored;

an acquisition step, of acquiring information about ~~[[a]]~~ an optional device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on the external device from a memory area of the external device listing optional devices mountable on said external device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said external device, by using the read command; and

a display control step, of controlling a display based upon the information acquired in said acquisition step,

wherein the optional device that is mountable on the external device but is not mounted on the external device, includes an attachable part through which the optional device is attached to the external device, and a function assist part for assisting a function of the external device.

23 - 41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) ~~An information~~ A processing apparatus device for a network comprising:

a memory configured to store optional device information listing optional devices mountable on said processing device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said processing device is stored, wherein the optional device information includes information about a an optional device that is mountable on said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device but is not mounted on said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device; and

a communication unit configured to send the stored information to ~~an external a~~ network device,

wherein the optional device, that is mountable on said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device but is not mounted on said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device, includes an attachable part through which that optional device is attached to said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device, and a function assist part for assisting a function of said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device.

43. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the optional device mountable on said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device includes an attachable part through which the optional device is attached to said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device and a function assist part for assisting a function of said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device.

44. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 42, wherein the memory stores information about a an optional device which is mountable on said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device and has already been mounted on said ~~information~~ processing apparatus device

45. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling ~~an information~~ a processing apparatus for communicating with ~~the external~~ a network device, said method comprising:

an accessing step of accessing a network device having a memory which stores optional device information listing optional devices mountable on said processing device irrespective of whether the optional devices have ever been mounted on said network device, wherein the optional device information includes information about an optional device mountable on said network device but is not mounted on said network device;

an acquisition step, of acquiring, from ~~the external~~ the network device, information about a an optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device by access in said accessing step; and

a display control step, of controlling a display based upon the information acquired in said acquisition step,

wherein the optional device, that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device, includes an attachable part through which the optional device is attached to the ~~external~~ network device, and a function assist part for assisting a function of the ~~external~~ network device.

46. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 45, wherein the optional device mountable on the ~~external~~ network device includes an attachable part through which the optional device is attached to the ~~external~~ network device, and a function assist part for assisting a function of the ~~external~~ network device.

47. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 45,

wherein said acquisition step includes acquiring information indicative of the optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device and [[a]] an optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device and has already been mounted on the ~~external~~ network device, and

said display control step identifiably displays the optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device but is not mounted on the ~~external~~ network device and the optional device that is mountable on the ~~external~~ network device and has already been mounted on the ~~external~~ network device based on the information acquired in said acquisition step.